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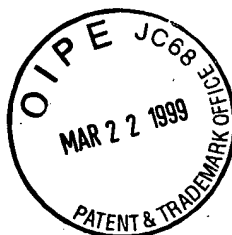
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
NISHIUMI et al.

Serial No. 09/227,350

Filed: January 8, 1998

For: OPERATING DEVICE AND IMAGE PROCESSING
SYSTEM USING SAME



Atty. Ref.: 723-680

Group:

Examiner:

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March 22, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of each of these references is attached. For the Examiner's reference, references A-D were cited in an Office Action in related parent application Serial No. 08/836,739, entitled "THREE-DIMENSIONAL IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS". It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Respectfully submitted,

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